

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 20289 01 OF 02 011708Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 DODE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-07 PM-04 L-03 NASA-01 NSC-05

ERDA-05 OES-06 /122 W

----- 067915

R 011655Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3756

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 20289

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, PFOR, WB, GW, US

SUBJECT: ITU BROADCASTING SATELLITE CONFERENCE

REF: A. BONN 20089 B. BONN 20071

1. ECON/COMMERCIAL MINISTER COUNSELOR CALLED IN BY
FOREIGN OFFICE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SIGRIST AND
GIVEN COPY OF AIDE MEMOIRE ON BERLIN ASPECT OF JANUARY
ITU WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE IN GENEVA ON
BROADCAST SATELLITES, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS. SIGRIST
SAID THE SAME AIDE MEMOIRE WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE UK
EMBASSY AND THAT AN INFORMAL APPROACH WOULD BE MADE TO
THE FRENCH EMBASSY WHICH HAD NOT RAISED OBJECTIONS IN
THE BONN GROUP TO FRG PLANS. BEGIN TEXT:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 20289 01 OF 02 011708Z

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CONSIDERS THAT THE ITU SATELLITE BROADCASTING CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN GENEVA IN 1977 MUST ENSURE SATELLITE BROADCASTING COVERAGE ALSO FOR BERLIN (WEST). THE "SENDER FREIES BERLIN" (FREE BERLIN BROADCASTING STATION) IS A MEMBER OF THE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT DEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK-ANSTALTEN (ARD-ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN BROADCASTING CORPORATIONS), AND, LIKE ALL STATIONS IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY, PARTICIPATES IN THE PLANNING AND REALISATION OF THE ARD PROGRAMME. THIS PROGRAMME INTEGRATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE ASSURED IN THE FUTURE AS WELL.

BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL RECEPTION PLAN SUPPORTED BY THE CEPT ADMINISTRATIONS, FROM A TECHNICAL POINT OF VIEW THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING COVERAGE FOR BERLIN (WEST) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) INCLUSION OF BERLIN (WEST) IN THE COVERAGE ELLIPSE FOR THE FEDERAL TERRITORY.
- 2) PROVISION OF SEPARATE SATELLITE CHANNELS FOR BERLIN (WEST).

UNDER THE FIRST SOLUTION THE FREQUENCIES WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR THE FEDERAL TERRITORY CAN ALSO BE USED FOR BERLIN. THIS WOULD SIMPLIFY SATELLITE PLANNING: THE FREQUENCY BAND 11.7 - 12.5 GHZ, THE DEMAND FOR WHICH IS ALREADY PARTICULARLY GREAT IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WOULD BE SPARED THE STILL GREATER STRAIN ARISING OUT OF AN APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES FOR BERLIN (WEST). THE SPECIAL FREQUENCIES WHICH, UNDER SOLUTION 2 WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR BERLIN (WEST) WOULD, IF SOLUTION 1 WERE CHOSEN, BE FREE FOR USE BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

ANOTHER POINT TO BE CONSIDERED IS THAT BERLIN WOULD IN ANY CASE LIE WITHIN THE ELLIPSE COVERING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 20289 01 OF 02 011708Z

THE FEDERAL TERRITORY. A SPECIAL SATELLITE OR SPECIAL SATELLITE CHANNELS FOR BERLIN (WEST) WOULD, ON THE OTHER HAND, INEVITABLY INCLUDE ALONG WITH BERLIN, THE WHOLE SURROUNDING AREA IN THE COVERAGE ELLIPSE AND HENCE CREATE A FAR BIGGER OVERSPILL THAN IN THE CASE OF SOLUTION 1.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
HAS THEREFORE OPTED FOR SOLUTION 1 IN ITS APPLI-
CATION TO THE IFRB: THIS SOLUTION IS BETTER IN
TERMS OF THE ECONOMIC USE OF FREQUENCIES, FACIL-
ITIES PLANNING AND LIMITS OVERSPILL TO THE UN-
AVOIDABLE MINIMUM. WITH THIS SOLUTION, MOREOVER,
PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT ARISE FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF SPECIAL FREQUENCIES FOR BERLIN (WEST) (E.G.
IN LISTING THE BERLIN FREQUENCIES) ARE AVOIDED.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 20289 02 OF 02 011709Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 AF-08

ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 DODE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-07 PM-04 L-03 NASA-01 NSC-05

ERDA-05 OES-06 /122 W

----- 067933

R 011655Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3757

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 20289

IT IS, FURTHERMORE, CLEAR FROM THE GERMAN APPLICA-

TION TO THE IFRB, THAT PROTECTION IS REQUESTED ONLY FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING SERVICES WITHIN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY AND BERLIN (WEST), AND NOT OUTSIDE THIS COVERAGE AREA.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THEREFORE BELIEVES THERE IS NO OBJECTIVE REASON WHY THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ISSUE SHOULD LEAD TO THE FAILURE OF THE CONFERENCE. IT WOULD APPRECIATE IF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES COULD REVIEW ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER AND SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE FEDERAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 20289 02 OF 02 011709Z

GOVERNMENT AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO ENSURE SATELLITE BROADCASTING COVERAGE ALSO FOR BERLIN (WEST) THROUGH THE FREQUENCIES REQUESTED FOR THE FEDERAL TERRITORY.

BONN, 29TH NOVEMBER, 1976 END TEXT

2. IN ORAL REMARKS SIGRIST EMPHASIZED FRG POLITICAL NEED TO INCLUDE BERLIN FULLY IN ITS BROADCASTING SYSTEM

JUST AS IT IS NOW INCLUDED. HE MAINTAINED THAT THE NORMAL ELLIPSE FOR A BROADCASTING SATELLITE INCLUDES BERLIN AND THAT THE SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS HAVE NO CAUSE FOR COMPLAINT SINCE THEIR OWN ELLIPSES WILL SPILL OVER INTO FRG TERRITORY AS WELL AS THAT OF OTHER COUNTRIES. TO USE SPECIAL BEAM FOR BERLIN WOULD CAUSE MORE INTERFERENCE THAN WOULD A NORMAL ANTENNA. IN ANY CASE, THEY BELIEVE THE COMMUNIST SIDE WILL NOT COMPLAIN TOO STRONGLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE SOME INTEREST IN A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE AND BECAUSE THEIR SATELLITE BROADCASTING SYSTEM WILL BE SO DIFFERENT FROM THE FRG'S THAT THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM OF RESIDENTS IN THE GDR OR OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES BEING ABLE TO RECEIVE FRG TRANSMISSIONS. THEY CONCEDE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS MIGHT MAKE TROUBLE AT THE ITU CONFERENCE OVER THE FRG REQUEST TO PROTECT BERLIN FROM INTERFERENCE TO FRG BROADCAST SATELLITES

3. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION VENHAUS OF POSTAL MINISTRY TOLD EMBOFF THAT ELLIPSE USED BY FOREIGN OFFICE AS BASIS FOR ITS PAPER WAS A DEFENSIBLE ONE TECHNICALLY, ALTHOUGH IT WAS POSSIBLE WITH A COMPUTER TO DRAW A SMALLER ONE.

4. COMMENT: SINCE FRG HAS ALREADY SUBMITTED ITS PROPOSAL TO THE ITU, THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER BERLIN SHOULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED SEEMS ACADEMIC. WE SUGGEST IT WOULD

BE MORE USEFUL TO THINK IN TERMS OF HOW TO HANDLE THE
SITUATION IF THERE IS A CHALLENGE IN GENEVA FROM THE
SOVIETS OR EAST GERMANS, AND ESPECIALLY WHETHER
ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO PERSUADE THE FRG TO BACK OFF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 20289 02 OF 02 011709Z

ON ITS STAND ON BERLIN IF THAT IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT
THE FAILURE OF THE CONFERENCE.
5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE FOR RESPONSE
TO AIDE MEMOIRE IS REQUESTED.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, RADIO BROADCASTING, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN20289
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760445-0432
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761280/aaaacrfo.tel
Line Count: 238
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BONN 20089
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITU BROADCASTING SATELLITE CONFERENCE
TAGS: ETEL, PFOR, WB, GE, US, ITU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006